



Town of Discovery Bay
A California Community Services District
"Friday Letter"
To the Board of Directors
JANUARY 16, 2015

From: Rick Howard, General Manager

General Manager/Administration:

- ✓ I realize that it has been some time since I have sent you a Friday Letter, and I am grateful to have had your support, and patience, while I endured my surgery and recovered with my family in southern California. My two daughters were absolutely fantastic in aiding me and helping with my recovery. Again, thank you for your patience.
- ✓ As you know, we were closed from December 24 through January 1st, reopening on the 2nd of January. Other than a few routine call-outs, and one downed tree from high winds, it was a very quiet week. On behalf of staff and me, we all appreciated the change in holidays to accommodate the new Winter Closure (Holiday) schedule.
- ✓ Friday, December 5th was the day of our annual Vendor Appreciation open-house. This year's event took place at the Community Center for the first time. The event, as usual, was well attended, and from what I was told, appreciated by all who participated.



- ✓ As you recall, last year the state of California passed new legislation to regulate ground water supplies statewide, and basin by basin. The new regulations will impact the Town, as ground water is our *only* source of drinking water for the town. The Tracy sub-basin, which we are a part of, is rather large, and there is traction (and geologic rationale) to divide the basin into two separate sub-basins – one being the Contra Costa side and the other San Joaquin. On Thursday, December 18th I participated in a conference call with other GM's in the area to discuss the overall plan moving forward. At my urging, as well as Diablo Water's, we have agreed to obtain a proposal from Luhdorff and Scalmanini to prepare the studies and evaluation necessary to be able to submit to the state a proposal to sub-divide the basin. I am extremely pleased that L&S was selected due to the fact that they are very familiar with our particular circumstances, know our system, and have completed a number of basin studies for the Town over the past 15 years.

Once we get a little closer to finalizing a MOU between the parties (BBID, Diablo Water, Contra Costa Water, TODB, City of Brentwood and Contra Costa Irrigation District), I'll be in a position to present the information to the Board and have L&S present their proposal and rationale for the need to sub-divide the basin.

- ✓ Auditors are presently here auditing FY 2013-14, and have about another week of on-site work to perform before they head off and prepare their reports.

Water and Wastewater Service

- ✓ As you know, NOAA forecasters have indicated that there is a likelihood that the current drought will continue with only marginal improvements. In October 2014, the Town's Emergency Drought Ordinance went into effect, and the Town has done quite a bit of public information and has encouraged residents to conserve. The residents have responded, and here are the numbers for 2014 (in Millions of gallons) and going back the 4 years prior:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
January	87	54	52	66	51.48	69.3
February	49	47	52	61	55.88	61.1
March	68	61	54	67	86.09	68.3
April	103	75	89	74	99.81	92.98
May	130	120	127	127	148.77	128.2
June	144	143	126	148	144.86	135.2
July	162	212	150	159	162.13	148.9
August	157	217	150	156	156	121.3
September	137	132	135	134	130	107.9
October	101	118	99	107	117.18	93.6
November	82	72	71	66	83.1	63.9
December	62	55	68	53	67.61	46.8
Yr Total	1282	1306	1173	1218	1302.9	1137.4

Overall, the reduction in consumption for the year 2014 represented a 13% reduction over 2013 figures. However, since the news of the drought hit, for the final three months of the year (highlighted in yellow), there was a 24% reduction in consumption Town wide!

- ✓ Work continues to progress at Plant 2. The photo below shows the new head-works that is being constructed as a part of the oxidation and clarifier project. If you look into the background, you can see the yellow pipe that is being bypassed until the new headworks is complete. Completing the headworks is currently a project priority.



- ✓ The photos below show progress on the oxidation ditch, with an anticipated project completion date of late July for the entire \$5.0M project (Ox ditch/Clarifier and headworks).





- ✓ Now that Lift Station F is now complete, and as a small token of our gratitude for the immediate home owner that has endured months of work in their front yard, including a blocked driveway on a number of occasions, loud construction noises, and construction activities that started early in the morning, Virgil gave the family a \$150 pre-paid Visa card so that they could go to dinner on behalf of the Town. Their patience (which grew very thin at times), was greatly appreciated. They were thankful for the gift card and noted that they appreciated our concern and acknowledgement of the inconvenience the project caused their family.

Parks, Landscape and Recreation Services

- ✓ The Zumba “Gold” Class started this past week with a pretty solid turnout. What is Zumba Gold you ask? Well, it’s a class for all of us that have hit the tender young age of 55! Who’s joining me?
- ✓ This week we have made offers, which have been accepted, to add the two new parks and landscape maintenance workers to our team. They both start February 2nd.

Important Dates

Upcoming important dates are as follows:

- State of the Town – Saturday January 17, 2015 – Country Club, 5:30 p.m.
- CSD Regular Board Meeting – Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.